



Perforations



Last month, members brought in various items to show and talk about.

Two new items were brought up:

1) The Holiday Brunch, will be on Saturday 10 December starting at 11:30 am at the Golden Corral 1455 North Dilleys Road, Gurnee, IL. We need to get a head count of those who plan to attend. If you plan to attend, tell us at the next meeting, email: webmaster@lcpshome.org, or call 847-548-5070.

2) We are thinking of having a charity auction early next year. If you have a favorite local charity you need to let us know by the November meeting.

This month stamp dealer, Jim Bardo (bardostamps.com), will speak to us about the stamp collecting hobby

Treasures' Report: Checking - \$1,654.67; Savings - \$ 1,543.79; Total - \$ 3,198.46



The Chicago Philatelic Society's "**CHICAGOPEX 2011**" will be held November 18-20, 2011 at the Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd, Itasca, IL. Seventy-plus dealers (along with USPS and UN representatives) are expected at Chicago's largest Stamp Show.

Local Stamp Shows

MSDA Show
Comfort Inn
600 Milwaukee Ave
Prospect Heights IL
October 22-23

TOSAPEX
Gonzaga Hall
1435 S. 92nd St.
West Allis, WI
Oct 22-23

CHICAGOPEX 2011
Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca IL
November 18-20

FROSTEEPEX '11
Gonzaga Hall
1435 S. 92nd St.
West Allis, WI
Dec 3-4

MSDA Winter Show
Lidner Conference Center
610 E Butterfield Rd
Lombard IL
Dec 10-11

Next meeting:
7-PM on **Tuesday, 25 October 2011**
at the Grayslake Library
100 Library Lane - Grayslake, IL 60030



Officers:
Dr Tom Willer – President
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Walter F. Veile - Treasurer

A Short History of Postage Stamps – Part I

The Post Office Department issued its first postage stamps on July 1, 1847. Previously, letters were taken to a Post Office, where the postmaster would note the postage in the upper right corner. The postage rate was based on the number of sheets in the letter and the distance it would travel. Postage could be paid in advance by the writer, collected from the addressee on delivery, or paid partially in advance and partially upon delivery.

Alexander M. Greig's City Despatch Post, a private New York City carrier, issued the first adhesive stamps in the United States on February 1, 1842. The Post Office Department bought Greig's business and continued use of adhesive stamps to prepay postage.

After U.S. postage rates were standardized in 1845, New York City Postmaster Robert H. Morris, among others, provided special stamps or markings to indicate prepayment of postage. These now are known as Postmasters' Provisionals.

On March 3, 1847, Congress authorized United States postage stamps. The first general issue postage stamps went on sale in New York City, July 1, 1847. One, priced at five cents, depicted Benjamin Franklin. The other, a ten-cent stamp, pictured George Washington. Clerks used scissors to cut the stamps from pre-gummed, nonperforated sheets. Only Franklin and Washington appeared on stamps until 1856, when a 5¢ stamp honoring Thomas Jefferson (Scott 12) was issued. A 2¢ Andrew Jackson stamp (Scott 73) was added in 1863. George Washington has appeared on more postage stamps than any other individual.



Commemorative Stamps - In 1893, the first commemorative stamps, honoring the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago, were issued. The subject — Columbus's voyages to the New World — and size of the stamps were innovative. Standard-sized stamps were too small for engraved reproductions of paintings that portrayed events connected to Columbus's voyages. The 16 (Scott 230-245) stamps of this set (1¢ - \$5.00) were 17.8 mm high by 34.1 mm inches wide, nearly double the size of previous stamps. This issue included the first denomination above a dollar.



Over the years, commemorative stamps have been produced in many sizes and shapes, with the first triangular (Scott 3130-31) stamps issued in 1997 and the first round stamp (Scott 3412) in 2000.

The first stamp honoring an American woman was the 8¢ Martha Washington stamp (Scott 306) of 1902. The first to honor a Hispanic American (his father was a Spanish citizen) was the one-dollar Admiral David Farragut (Scott 311) stamp in 1903. Native Americans were portrayed in a general way on several earlier stamps, but the first to feature a specific individual was 1907's 5¢ stamp honoring Pocahontas (Scott 330). In 1940, a 10¢ stamp commemorating Booker T. Washington (Scott 873) became the first to honor an African American.



Next month we'll finish the short history of U. S. Stamps.